

order to avoid paying taxes in this country, which is a subject for another day.

The question is, When will, or will ever, this Congress decide that this strategy does not work, that this strategy is not a strategy that is going to strengthen this country, it is going to weaken this country? Go to any business school in this country and ask those who are teaching classes about outsourcing, and they will give you a dim prospect for future jobs because you can hire engineers in India for a whole lot less than you can in the United States. You can hire people in China for a whole lot less money than you can in the United States. That does not mean a textile worker in this country is valueless. Jobs in this country are important.

I once asked Carla Hills, who was a trade ambassador, Is there anything that you wouldn't trade away? Are there any concentric circles of economic activity that are essential for our country to remain a strong world economic power? The answer was really not. Whatever the competition is, it is.

That is just wrong. That just does not make any sense. There are certain things that are required in our country for our country to remain a world economic power. Part of it is to stand up for our own economic interests, and, yes, to care a little about trying to bring others up but certainly not to allow our standard of living to be pushed down.

Those who hear me who feel differently think, as they have always thought, those of us who speak this way are xenophobic isolationist stooges who don't have enough brain power to see over the horizon. Won't they ever learn expanded trade benefits everybody?

Expanded trade, if it means outsourcing of American jobs because you can find people who will work for pennies an hour, does not benefit this country. It benefits the consumers in the short term perhaps, but consumers without jobs will not long be consumers. And this economic strategy, I think, finally—given this chart that I showed at the start—finally the understanding by nearly anyone who is thinking and sober is this strategy is creating an abyss for this country that is very serious. This is a very serious problem: mountains of red ink, substantial lost jobs, and economic opportunity leaving our country.

I have a series of recommendations on how to respond to all of this. I will mention one again because we are going to vote on it the week after next—I have offered it four times, and I have lost all four times. We will have a fifth vote. One would think that the first baby step in the direction of doing the right thing would be to shut down the perverse and idiotic tax exemption or tax credit for moving jobs overseas. Yes, that is right. We actually provide a reward for someone who shuts down

their American manufacturing plant and moves the jobs overseas for the purpose of shipping the product back into this country. We actually reward them for doing that.

One would think the first baby step would be to shut down that perverse tax incentive. There are not enough votes in this Chamber, at least historically, to do that. We are going to see the week after next whether some in this Chamber who have previously voted against it might either have seen the light, felt the heat, one way or the other, and have decided it is not useful—in fact, it is destructive—to reward those who decide to ship their American jobs overseas.

That is just the first step. There are many others, and I will in a future discussion talk about the practical steps we should and could take to protect the economic interests of our country, even as we attempt in every way to expand fair trade.

I am not against trade. I believe trade is important. But this country ought to expand opportunities for fair trade all around the world and stop being a pin cushion, an Uncle Sam that is played for Uncle Sucker in every single way.

I did not talk about automobiles, but the automobile trade is unbelievable. Has trade in automobiles required U.S. companies to improve their vehicles? Yes, it sure has. But I will give, again, one example with respect to Korea, and there is a longer story with China, but Korea is enough.

We have ships that bring Korean cars into this country. I am sure they are offloading today at some port. Nearly 700,000 Korean cars are shipped into our country each year. Do you know how many American cars we are able to sell in Korea? Less than 4,000—700,000 cars coming this way, and we get less than 4,000 cars into the Korean marketplace.

One that is of interest to me is the Dodge Dakota pickup because it is named after my State, Dakota. There was a time when the folks who made Dodge Dakota got really excited because they sold something like 100 of them in Korea. They thought they were going to ramp up a sales effort. They seemed to like Dodge Dakotas. They got shut down just like that.

Look at the sales of Dodge Dakota pickups in Korea for the first 9 months of this year and you will see the Korean Government did a great job of shutting that down. They want to ship 700,000 cars and allow us to ship 4,000 back. What does that mean? It means a mass exodus of American jobs.

Mr. President, we have so many challenges. My hope is that we will, through amendments I will offer to the reconciliation bill and other approaches in the Senate and in other ways, finally come to grips with whether we think this is doing anything other than dramatically injuring America's future economic opportunities.

One of my favorite people is Warren Buffett. He is the world's second rich-

est person, but you wouldn't know it looking at him, and you wouldn't know it talking with him. He is a wonderful guy with a great sense of humor, just plain spoken.

Warren Buffett is one of the few main business people in this country, one of the few people coming from a business background who says this is nuts, this is dangerous. This is going to turn us into a country of sharecroppers. He is very up front about it. Very few others are.

My hope is that ideas he has advanced—one of them I particularly like and they advanced in an article in Fortune magazine, which is how to deal with these devastating deficits and outsourcing, is that at one point or another this begins to take root in this Chamber.

Today I understand we are poised on the head of a pin because a Supreme Court nomination was withdrawn yesterday, and that is a big news item. Today the special prosecutor, at 2 o'clock, will announce the results of his decision with respect to the leak of outing a covert CIA officer. We have all these issues, and we dance on the head of pins on all these issues. Yes, some of them are important, some not. This is important. This describes whether our kids are going to have jobs; whether our country is going to expand and grow; whether America is going to be, in the future, what it has been in the past: a strong country, a world economic power, and one that can supply and one that can provide a standard of living and the kind of life that Americans have built for themselves for many decades.

Mr. President, I will speak more about this issue at some future point. I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the annual Armed Forces authorization bill will soon be the subject of further debate in the Senate at a time to be decided upon by the distinguished majority leader in consultation with the distinguished Democratic leader. I wish to thank each of them for their long, consistent, and arduous effort to bring this bill up for what I anticipate will be a successful resolution to the bill, with final passage in this Senate in coming weeks. Senator LEVIN and I have been on this committee for some 27 years together. We are ready.

Given that the unanimous consent was accepted by the Senate, both committee staffs are actually at this time working on amendments and other

matters in preparation for the future consideration of this bill by the Senate. I urge Senators who might wish to have amendments discussed, first, to listen to the terms of the unanimous consent agreement and study those. Flexibility is given to the managers to reach a joint agreement for Members that have amendments not covered explicitly in the numerical amounts in the unanimous consent.

The committee staffs are working. I urge Senators to bring to Senator LEVIN and myself such matters as they may be interested in, and we will do our very best to accommodate Senators.

This Nation is at war. Each day we find in our hearts compassion for those we have lost, those on the battlefields today—not just in Iraq and Afghanistan but all throughout the world—and their families at home.

I thank our leaders for passing that unanimous consent, and I encourage Senators to submit their amendments and bring them to our attention.

The committee met this week. We reported out the intelligence authorization bill. That, hopefully, will be a joint referral to the Committee on Government Operations. There is provision in that bill which was clearly within the jurisdiction of that committee. I am very fortunate to have on the Committee on Armed Services both the chairman, Chairman COLLINS, and the ranking member, Senator LIEBERMAN, as well as, of course, Senator ROBERTS. During the course of our deliberations yesterday, we quickly recognized it would be appropriate to be referred to that committee the intelligence bill with regard to that provision. That is progress we have made this week.

I am also pleased the committee pointed out a number of nominees for important civilian posts and, indeed, military posts in our Department of Defense. I understand some have been worked on today, and I will check to see whether other nominations can be cleared.

I am proud to say the Committee on Armed Services was very active this week. We have a charter now. We are back in business. I am very pleased that the prospects are we will pass our legislation.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I turn to another matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may proceed.

(The remarks of Mr. WARNER pertaining to the introduction of S. 1939 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. WARNER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MATH LITERACY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a few moments we will be closing for the week. But before doing so, I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues something that was just brought to my attention about 2 hours ago when I was e-mailed by our President pro tempore, Senator TED STEVENS.

Basically, in a little cryptic language, it said: Bill, did you read the New York Times today?

I said: No, I haven't read the New York Times today.

Then he gave me one statistic that he picked up. I looked at it, and he is exactly right. That statistic drove home to me a threat—we don't talk very much about it—that we need to face up to and to act on. We are doing some powerful things in the Senate to do just that. But we are going to have to put it out front, and we are going to have to lead on it.

The statistic is that China, in engineering, one field, is producing 442,000 new undergraduates a year, along with 48,000 graduates with master's degrees and 8,000 Ph.D.s in engineering. I focus on that to seize the opportunity that we do have before us a real threat that America is losing—not will lose but is losing—today the edge in technology that we depend on, and we depend on it in terms of creating the American dream, maintaining that American dream to pass on to our children, and it is time for us to act.

This has not been the first time that certain challenges have been put before us. We faced a similar challenge, and we overcame it. On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union—and we all remember that day, or those of us who were alive at the time remember that date—successfully launched the first manmade satellite into space. I was a very little boy at the time sitting around the dinner table and watching the stunning effect that had on my own family as they talked about it, I remember, one Sunday afternoon.

The event stunned America, but it spurred us to action. We don't have a Sputnik, per se, moment, but we need to create it. We need to educate the American people where we are today, the challenge that we face and the threat that we face to our competitive edge.

Less than a year later after that October 4 day in 1957, President Eisenhower signed the National Defense Education Act to restore America's preeminence in science. Math, engineering, and science became our top educational priorities. As a result, not only did we close the gap with the Soviet Union, but we far exceeded our own dreams, our own expectations at the time.

Fifty years later we face a similar challenge with the entry of China, the example I used, but also India and soon

to be many other nations, into this global marketplace. As writer and observer Tom Friedman details in his wonderful book, "The World Is Flat," American workers face accelerating competition not only in the low-wage manufacturing sector but now in the new fields of science and engineering and the technological fields. That is where the competition is today—with China and with India.

According to BusinessWeek, together China and India graduate 500,000 scientists and engineers a year—every year, 500,000. How about America? Where are we? Just guess. Think. Are we more? Less?

United States, 60,000; 500,000, India and China every year. We are down to 60,000. China, I just mentioned—more than 442,000 graduates every year.

While the entire world is getting smarter and faster and stronger in math and science, the United States is not. We are moving in the opposite direction. Indeed, the number of engineering degrees awarded in the United States is down 20 percent from just a decade ago, 10 years ago. We are moving in the opposite direction. If current trends continue, by 2010 more than 90 percent of all scientists in the world, of all engineers in the world, 90 percent will be in Asia. Already, the majority of graduate science and engineering students in the United States are foreign born.

Let me say that again. Already, the majority of graduate students in science and engineering in the United States are foreign born.

Instead of investing their new skills in America, they are increasingly returning—not staying here but returning to their homes. According to Education for Innovation Initiative, which is a coalition of America's most prominent business organizations, we need to double—we need to double the number of American science, technology, engineering, and mathematic students by 2015 if we are to remain the technological leader in the 21st century. That is a lot to do by 2015, just 10 years from now—a doubling. As I said, we are moving in the opposite direction.

If we don't significantly improve math and science education in this country, there is a real danger that we will fall permanently behind—once we lose that competitive edge in technology, in science, in mathematics where most job creation, as we look to the future, occurs.

How are we failing? I used the example of students today at the graduate level in engineering. So where does it all start? You have to jump all the way back down to the 15-, 16-year-old in the middle school areas. Are we failing there as we look to the future? They will become the graduates, whether it is math, science, engineering, or some other field, in the future.

Well, right now in the 29 industrialized nations in the world, if I asked you just to imagine where you think we are if you look at 15-year-old students—and most people would say,